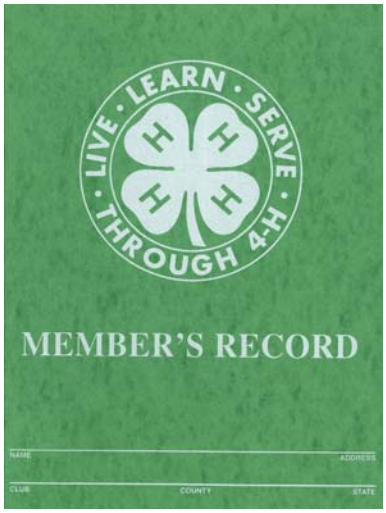
4-H News and Views

December 2008

Important Record Book Information



4-H Record Books Due February 2

All 4-H members need to submit a record book by February 2. The record books should be signed by a 4-H leader and dropped off at the Extension office by the member or their leader.

If you've been in 4-H for a year or less, include a summary sheet and 4-H story in your record book. You can even add photos if you like. Your story should tell a little bit about you and why you decided to join 4-H. Adding all these things will make doing your record books in upcoming years much easier.

If you are a 4-H member 14 years old or older, please include an essay in your record book. This year, your essay should answer the question, "Of the Four H's, which one has had the most impact on your life and why?"

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4-H Out-of- State Trip Opportunities

Attention, teens 4-H age 14 and older!

Prepare a portfolio and try for a 4-H Out-of-State trip to National 4-H Club Congress, West Virginia's Older Member's 4-H Camp, Virginia Congress or Camp Miniwanca. Instead of submitting record books, youth who submit a portfolio will be given first priority for consideration to be a member of the Maryland delegation for 2009 national trips. Portfolios include out-of-state trip application, 4-H resume, and essay. For more information, forms, and criteria go to http://www.maryland4h.org/

Portfolios are due in our office for county review by January 12, 2009

Out of State Trip Descriptions

National 4-H Congress www.national4-hcongress.com
24 delegates will be selected from MD counties or Baltimore City to join 6 at-large delegates from state level programs. Congress is the flagship event of the 4-H program. For eighty years, youth have participated in this youth leadership development event. Youth get a quality, educational, and cross-cultural experience and meet other youth from across the country. Congress is designed to address the needs and issues of youth while helping to develop capable, competent, and caring citizens. Congress takes place in late November, beginning the Friday after Thanksgiving, and is held in Atlanta, Georgia. It is available to youth 14-18 years old.

Camp Miniwanca www.ayf.com
2 youth receive funding to attend this American Youth Foundation leadership development camp that offers a week-long program aimed at developing character, leadership skills, personal and group effectiveness, and balance within your life. The camp takes place the first week in August in Shelby, Michigan. It is available to youth 14-18 years old.

West Virginia Older Member Conference
2 youth will be selected. The conference's mission is to develop leadership among older 4-H members by giving them an opportunity to participate in discussions of timely issues and problems and to teach new skills to be used in their clubs and communities. Participants are encouraged to serve as at-large delegates to the MD 4-H Teen Council for a year following the trip. The conference takes place in June at Jackson's Mill, West Virginia. For members 14 to 21 years old. The average age of participants is 17.

Virginia 4-H Congress www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/congress
2 youth will be selected. The mission is to provide competitive and non-competitive experiences for teens, helping them to develop life skills and leadership abilities to become contributing citizens in their communities. Participants are encouraged commitment to serve as at-large delegates to MD 4-H Teen Council for a year following the trip. The trip takes place in June and is held on campus at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia. Available to youth 14 to18 years old.

National 4-H Conference http://4hconf.4-h.org/
9 youth plus 1 from Military 4-H will be selected. The first priority will be 3 youth from each of the program regions. At National 4-H Conference, teen delegates take the lead by serving on consulting groups to make recommendations for future directions of the 4-H program. Preparing for and meeting with your state representatives and senators on Capitol Hill is a main highlight. This is a very focused working conference for teens. Trip takes place in late March or early April at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland. It is available to youth 14-18 years old. The due date for this conference was in October, so consider this trip for next year.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
Recognition Night March 14, 2009

Maryland 4-H Diamond Clover Award

The Diamond Clover is designed to encourage 4-H members to engage in a variety of projects and activities that will enable them to acquire the skills necessary to lead successful lives. Diamond Clover levels one through four are recognized by each county and levels five and six are recognized by the state at the Maryland 4-H Awards Gala. More detailed information is available on the Maryland 4-H web page (maryland4h.org) including forms and a very helpful FAQ sheet. Contact Beth Nichols if you have questions. Award applications are due **February 2, 2009** to be a part of our annual recognition night.

The Awards that YOU Nominate -

During our annual recognition program, volunteers are recognized for years of service. Special awards are also given to volunteers you would like to see recognized for their 4-H contributions.

Many outstanding people are part of the Washington County 4-H Program.

Think about the individuals you would like to see receive this special recognition.

Please nominate for any or all of the following awards:

The Hall of Fame award recognizes a volunteer who has displayed dedication to 4-H at all levels of involvement.

The 4-H Family of the Year Award– recognizes an entire family for their active involvement and dedication to 4-H.

The Honorary 4-H Member Award - recognizes someone who was not a 4-H member as a youth, but who has become involved as an adult and given outstanding leadership.

Call us at 301-791-1404 with your nominations or for nomination forms; or go to this website:

http://www.maryland4h.org/Volunteers/Awards.cfm

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS - ALL DUE FEB 2

Through the generosity of our partners, there are several scholarships available for eligible 4-Hers to consider:

- **The Market Sale Committee and the Dairy Scholarship Committee** are awarding two $500 scholarships each. Applications are available now.
- **Washington County Horse Council Equestrian Scholarship.** The Washington County Horse Council is pleased to announce a $250 scholarship. Contact the MCE office for scholarship eligibility requirements and application.
- **The Mildred A. Schmid Scholarship** is awarded to an individual who has done outstanding work in the 4-H dog project. Individuals not involved in the dog project may also apply and submit a research paper from a suggested list of topics.

Washington County 4-H scholarships are awarded at the annual recognition program.

MCE Office Closings

December 24-29 and 31

January 1

January 19

STATE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Maryland 4-H Foundation has numerous scholarships available to eligible 4-H members.
More information will be coming soon.

Dairy Scholarships are available, including some specific breed scholarships. Check them out at the following link http://ansc.umd.edu/extension/dairy/dairyscholarships.cfm. If you need more information, contact Kiera Finucane, Coodinator, Dairy and Beef Extension Activities, Animal and Avian Sciences, at 301-405-1392 or email kieraf@umd.edu.

The Maryland Dairy Shrine Scholarship One $500 scholarship will be offered to a Maryland youth who has been recognized as the Distinguished Junior Member (or equivalent) by their Dairy Breed Organization. Guidelines and applications are available at our office. The application deadline is January 14, 2009.

Washington County 4-H

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"Making the Best Better"

4-H Calendar of Events

December
December 8: Record Book Workshop @ MCE Office-Washington County
December 11: Animal Sciences In-Service @ Howard County Fairgrounds
December 12: Washington Co. Horse Council Meeting- 7:30 p.m. @ MCE Office-Washington County
December 19: Club Leaders: 2008 All Reasonable Efforts Sheet
December 24-26: Christmas Holiday Washington County Extension Office Closed
December 31: New Year's Eve Holiday Washington County Extension Office Closed

January
January 1: New Year's Holiday Washington County Extension Office Closed
January 12: Portfolios for Out-of-State Trips due to Washington County MCE Office
January 15-18: Horse World Expo- 4-H Horse Art Contest @ Maryland State Fairgrounds
January 17-19: Patuxent River 4-H Center Winter Camp
January 19: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Washington County Extension Office Closed

February
February 2: Record Books due to Maryland Cooperative Extension- Washington County Office
February 9: 4-H Advisory Committee Meeting
February 10: 4-H Out-of-State Trip Interviews @ Maryland 4-H Center (Snow Day February 24)
February 13: Club Leaders: Club information, 4-H Club Meeting Calendar, Club Leadership form- Due to MCE Office Washington County
February 14: 4-H Out of State Trip Interviews @ Carroll County Ag Center (Snow Day February 28)
February 14: Spring Swine Show
February 16: 4-H Day in Annapolis
February 21: Record Book Judging @ MCE Office-Washington County

We're on the web:
www.washington.umd.edu

Sincerely,

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Extension Educator,
4-H Youth Development

Diane Woodring

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